

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION
OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Held on Wednesday, 19 January 2000, immediately following the Closed Session,
in Room GM 407-1, SGW Campus

Attendance

Present: Mrs. Lillian Vineberg, *Chair*, Dr. Steven Appelbaum, Ms. Barbara Barclay, Ms. Joanne Beaudoin, Mr. Deepak Boojhawon, Dr. William Byers, Mr. Charles Cavell, Dr. June Chaikelson, Mrs. Marianne Donaldson, Dr. Leonard Ellen, Dr. Terrill Fancott, Ms. Nicole Fauré, Mr. Leo Goldfarb, Mr. Rob Green, Mr. George Hanna, Mr. Peter Howlett, Dr. Christine Jourdan, Mr. Martin Kapustianyk, Mr. Ronald Lawless, Ms. Christine Lengvari, Dr. Frederick Lowy, *Rector and Vice-Chancellor*, Mr. Eric Molson, *Chancellor*, Mr. John Parisella, *Vice-Chair*, Mr. Chris Piché, Mr. Richard Renaud, *Vice-Chair*, Mrs. Miriam Roland, Dr. Elizabeth Saccá, Mrs. Marianna Simeone, Ms. Sabrina Stea

Officers of the University: Prof. Marcel Danis, Mr. Charles Emond, Mr. Larry English, Dr. Jack Lightstone

Observer: Me Pierre Frégeau

Absent: Dr. Francesco Bellini, Mr. Alain Benedetti, Mr. Alex Carpini, Me Rita de Santis, Mr. Ned Goodman, Mr. Paul Ivanier, Mr. Paul Kefalas, Mrs. Hazel Mah, Sister Eileen McIlwaine Ph.D., Mr. Jacques Ménard, Mr. Jonathan Wener

Guest: Mr. Tamás Zsolnay, *Executive Director, University Advancement*

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED AND ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES

BG-2000-1-D1 Proposed resolution concerning establishment of an Advisory Search Committee for a Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, and Secretary-General

1. **Call to Order**

The Open Session was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

1.1 **Chair's remarks**

Mrs. Vineberg reported on the Alumni Recognition Awards ceremony, held at the St. James Club on 27 January 2000. She announced that Governor Francesco Bellini had been named a Member of the Order of Canada, and welcomed Mr. Charles Cavell to the meeting.

Mr. Boojhawon, President of the Commerce and Administration Students' Association (CASA), announced that Concordia's team won second place in the Commerce Games held at *Université de Laval* from 6 to 8 January. The Concordia team had placed first in the academic categories, winning gold in marketing and finance competitions, among others. Mrs. Vineberg asked Mr. Boojhawon to convey the Board's congratulations to the team.

1.2 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as submitted.

1.3 Approval of the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous meeting (15 December 1999)

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Roland, Byers), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2000-2 *THAT the Minutes of the Open Session of the previous regular meeting of the Board, held on 15 December 1999, be approved.*

2. Business arising from the Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

3. Presentation by Mr. Tamás Zsolnay, Executive Director of Advancement

Mr. Zsolnay, Executive Director of Advancement, presented the Final Report of the Advancement and Alumni Task Force. In an audio-visual presentation, Mr. Zsolnay summarized the components of a complete fund raising program as follows: the annual campaign for short-term needs; the occasional capital campaign for mid- to long-term needs; and planned giving for long-term needs.

Recommendations of the Task Force were highlighted, notably (1) the consolidation, organizationally and physically, of advancement and alumni functions; (2) engagement of Faculty advancement and alumni officers; and (3) appointment of a Director of Advancement and Alumni in Toronto. Mr. Zsolnay explained how these developments would contribute toward more effective planning, improved coordination fund raising efforts with Faculties' needs, and a reshaping of the role of alumni associations as "friend raisers". Greater transparency, cost-benefit accounting and regular reporting to the Board were planned.

Mr. Zsolnay said his goal was to operate with a cost-benefit ratio of 10%. The current ratio for Concordia's fund raising activities was between 20% and 30%, owing in part to the high front-end costs of mounting a capital campaign.

Governors asked questions about the use of the WEB and affinity cards to stimulate alumni participation.

4. Establishment of an Advisory Search Committee for a Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, and Secretary-General

Upon motion duly moved and seconded (Lowy, Chaikelson), it was unanimously RESOLVED:

R2000-3 WHEREAS Prof. Marcel Danis was appointed to the position of Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, at the 19 June 1996 meeting of the Board of Governors to serve a five-year term, and his term of office will expire on 30 June 2001;

WHEREAS the duties of the University Secretariat were added to Prof. Danis' portfolio and the designation, "Secretary-General", was added to his title, by resolution of the Board on 18 February 1998; and

WHEREAS the positions "Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations" and "Secretary-General" were formally merged by resolution of the Board on 20 October 1999;

BE IT RESOLVED

THAT an Advisory Search Committee for the position "Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, and Secretary-General" be established, having the following composition as approved by resolution of the Board on 17 March 1999:

- 1 Chair
- 2 Board members, representing the community-at-large or the alumni, recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board
- 4 Full-time faculty members, elected by each Faculty
- 1 Regular part-time faculty member, elected by the part-time faculty
- 1 Representative of the senior management, recommended by the Executive Committee of the Board
- 2 Students (one graduate and one undergraduate) nominated by their respective student associations
- 1 Member of the administrative and support staff from one of the units reporting to the Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, and Secretary-General, nominated in conformity with the Electoral College policy

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AND THAT the Rector, Dr. Frederick Lowy, be appointed Chair of the Committee.

5. Report of the Advisory Search Committee for a Vice-Rector, Services

Dr. Lowy, Chair of the Search Committee, reported that the Committee had interviewed seven of a total of twenty-eight applicants for the position. Of the seven, four (incumbent Charles Emond, Mr. Duncan Campbell, Mr. Michael Di Grappa, Ms. Carol-Ann Tetrault Sirsly) would be presented in an open meeting on Monday, 31 January 2000, and written comments would be accepted for consideration by the Search Committee from any member of the University community. Dr. Lowy said the Committee hoped to be able to make a recommendation at the February meeting of the Board.

6. Report of the Rector

Rector Frederick Lowy reported as follows:

- (i) Thanks to Vice-Rector, Services, Charles Emond and his staff, Concordia had not experienced any problems related to Y2K.
- (ii) The Rector congratulated the Commerce undergraduate students for their excellent performance in the Commerce Games.
- (iii) The International MBA Case Competition, held at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal on 13 January, engaged thirty teams of graduate students from the United States, Europe, South America, New Zealand and Canada. Dr. Lowy acknowledged the importance of such competitions in the development of professional and life skills, and said the participation of Concordia students increases our visibility.
- (iv) The inaugural lecture of the Concordia University Chair in Canadian Jewish Studies was given, on 18 January, by Dr. Norman Ravvin. The presentation was moderated by Governor Miriam Roland.
- (v) At a recent meeting with the CREPUQ executive, Education Minister François Legault was not very encouraging about the prospects for improved financing of Quebec universities. Although the budgets of both health and education sectors would increase in the 2000-01 budget year, the Minister was having difficulty persuading his colleagues in the Cabinet of the urgency of re-investment in higher education. The Rector urged Governors having connections with Government officials or elected representatives to advocate energetically on behalf of the universities.

Concordia Student Union President Rob Green asked whether there was any discussion about lobbying the federal government for restoration of transfer payments. Dr. Lowy replied that the subject was discussed in light of the projected federal surplus, which was expected to be the main focus of the upcoming meeting of the Premiers. The Rector added that CREPUQ and member universities had written to the federal government appealing for restoration of funding to 1994 levels, and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada was also mounting a campaign. Mr. Green said strenuous lobbying would be needed to counter the influence on Finance Minister Paul Martin of demands for tax reductions.

Provost and Vice-Rector, Research, Jack Lightstone said he had heard the federal government was more likely to invest in its own granting agencies and specialized programs than to increase transfer payments to the provincial ministries.

Respecting a longstanding program to facilitate a movement from rented to owned properties, Dr. Lowy said the Government had confirmed that it would pay Concordia \$37 million, subject to certain conditions.

- (vi) Governors had received publicity about an Open House, to be held on both the Sir George Williams and Loyola Campuses on 21 and 22 January. Dr. Lowy encouraged everyone to visit the educational booths or participate in scheduled events.

(vii) A conference on universities and intellectual property would be hosted by Concordia, in conjunction with CREPUQ, on Friday, 28 January. The *Journée d'étude sur le droit d'auteur* would feature speakers from Quebec universities and law firms, with closing remarks by Dr. Lightstone.

7. Reports of the Vice-Rectors

- 7.1 Provost and Vice-Rector, Research, Jack Lightstone reported that confirmation of re-accreditation of Concordia's Department of Psychology had been received from the American Psychological Association. He noted that very few Psychology departments in Canada were accredited by the American professional association; most were accredited only by Canadian Psychological Association, as required.

Dr. Lightstone explained that the last provincial budget had established two programs to promote education in the information technologies, one to provide direct subsidies corresponding to new enrolments, and the other to subsidize universities' expenditures on capital needs. The first, Dr. Lightstone explained, would provide a \$2,000 subsidy to the university for each additional FTE (full-time equivalent), and \$1,000 for each graduating student; in addition, \$1,000 would be given to each eligible graduating student. The second program would allocate a sum of \$3.1 million in "seed money" to enable universities to equip themselves to teach the additional students. Since announcement of the program, Quebec universities had been negotiating vigorously to secure a share of the envelope. Dr. Lightstone told the Board that fourteen of fifteen projects submitted by Concordia had been approved, and the other project was still under discussion. From this envelope, Concordia had netted about \$800,000, far exceeding its *pro rata* share of \$310,000. Dr. Lightstone acknowledged the vast amount of work invested by faculty and staff in preparing these applications, and expressed his thanks.

Dr. Lightstone calculated that the intake of new students over the last two years would produce a \$4.5 million increase in Concordia's base funding. The Provost cautioned that, while that might appear to be a windfall, the subsidies barely covered the average costs incurred to educate the new students. Concordia normally spends an average of only \$8,000 per year per student, compared with per student spending of \$12,000 by universities elsewhere in Canada -- the amount which, Dr. Lightstone said, Concordia should aspire to spend.

The Provost reported also that the Canada Foundation for Innovation had awarded grants of about \$15 million in its first round. In the coming cycle, having the application deadline of 1 February 2000, Concordia was preparing applications amounting to \$20 million.

- 7.2 Vice-Rector, Services, Charles Emond concurred with the Rector's assessment that Concordia's transition to Y2K had gone smoothly, and observed that thorough preparations had produced an inventory of very useful information. Mr. Emond reported also that a "router", essential to Internet connectivity throughout the University, had failed on 10 January; the part, which was eight years old, was replaced and operations restored within the day.

The Vice-Rector said that, although final figures were not yet available, it appeared that enrolments were up in all Faculties.

Mr. Emond acknowledged a very successful initiative of Director of Libraries Bill Curran, who had offered 24 hour access to the libraries during the exam period. Mr. Green added that students had greatly appreciated the service.

Finally, Mr. Emond announced that Concordia's superb women's hockey team had emerged victorious, after a double overtime session, from the Theresa Humes Hockey Tournament.

7.3 Vice-Rector, Institutional Relations, and Secretary-General Marcel Danis waived his report.

7.4 Chief Financial Officer Larry English said he had nothing to report at the present time.

8. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

9. Any other business

There was no other business.

10. Date of next meeting

The Chair announced that the next regular meeting of the Board of Governors would be held at 8:00 a.m., on Wednesday, 16 February 2000, in Room GM 407-1, on the SGW Campus.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

Submitted by Amely Jurgenziemk, Secretary of the Board of Governors and Senate, for approval by the Board at its meeting of 16 February 2000